

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 7967

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, AU

SUBJECT: PRE-31ST UNGA CONSULTATIONS: AUSTRIA

REFS: A) STATE 220772, B) STATE 220773

1. WE HAVE CONSULTED WITH APPROPRIATE AUSTRIAN MFA OFFICIALS ON ITEMS LIKELY TO COME BEFORE 31ST UNGA OF INTEREST TO U.S. WE HAVE ALSO TAKEN NOTE OF RECENT PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY CHANCELLOR KREISKY AND PLAYBACK BY AUSTRIAN PRESS OF VIEWS OF AMBASSADOR JANKOWITSCH, REGARDING UPCOMING 31ST UNGA AND ITEMS OF INTEREST TO AUSTRIA. KEY ISSUE OF KOREA WAS DISCUSSED AND PUERTO RICO, MIDDLE EAST AND PANAMA CANAL, IN ACCORD INSTRUCTIONS (REFTEL B), WERE NOT.

2. A BRIEF SUMMARY OF GOA VIEWS AND OF LIEKLY POSITION GOA WILL TAKE ON ITEMS OF INTEREST TO U.S. FOLLOWS:

A. KOREA - AUSTRIA SUPPORTS IN PRINCIPLE CONCEPT OF DIALOUGE BETWEEN TWO KOREAS AND DESIRABILITY OF AVOIDING CONFRONTATION. AS IN 1975, IT WOULD IN A VOTE UPHOLD PROCEDURAL RULE OF NO CHANGES IN PRIORITY OF HANDLING OF TWO RESOLUTIONS. ON SUBSTANCE OF ISSUE
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IT WOULD PROBABLY VOTE SAME AS IN 1975: FOR PRO-SOUTH

KOREAN RESOLUTION; ABSTAIN ON PRO-NORTH KOREAN RESOLUTION.

B. SOUTH AFRICA - GOA WISHES USG SUCCESS IN ITS EFFORTS TO ASSIST IN PEACEFUL SOLUTION OF NAMIBIAN AND RHODESIAN PROBLEMS. AUSTRIA HOLDS TO PRINCIPLE OF UNIVERSALITY OF MEMBERSHIP AND THEREFORE WOULD OPPOSE ANY EFFORT TO EXPEL SOUTH AFRICA FROM UN. AT SAME TIME, IT OPPOSES APARTHEID POLICY AND FAVORS NEGOTIATIONS AS BEST WAY TO BRING ABOUT PEACEFUL CHANGE.

C. ZIONISM/RACISM - GOA WOULD ALSO LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN DECADE AND IS PREPARED TO MAKE DISTINCTION BETWEEN ZIONISM RESOLUTION AND CONSTRUCTIVE DECADE PROGRAM.

D. CYPRUS - GOA ALSO FAVORS RESUMPTION OF TALKS BETWEEN TWO COMMUNITIES UNDER AEGIS OF UN SECGEN, WITH CONTINUED AVAILABILITY OF VIENNA AS SITE FOR TALKS.

E. WESTERN SAHARA - AUSTRIA FAVORS US APPROACH BUT ANTICIPATES PRESSURES FROM ALGERIA AND ITS SUPPORTERS TO ADOPT MORE PRO-ALGERIAN STANCE.

F. UNRWA FINANCING - AUSTRIA WILL SUPPORT EFFORT TO INCREASE ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION AND TENTATIVELY PLANS TO UP ITS OWN FROM US 70 THOUSAND TO 110 THOUSAND. THIS SUPPORT RELATED TO CURRENT PRESENCE OF PART OF UNRWA OPERATIONS IN VIENNA AND MAY POSSIBLY TAKE FROM OF GOA BOOKKEEPING TRANSACTION RE SPACE UTILIZATION.

G. INDIAN OCEAN PEACE ZONE - AUSTRIA ABSTAINED ON ISSUE ON PAST OCCASIONS AND PROBABLY WILL DO SAME AT 31ST UNGA. ITEM IS COMPLICATED ONE AND AUSTRIANS FEEL THERE SHOULD BE SOME COMPATIBILITY AND RELATIONSHIP WITH LOS BUT HAVE NOT YET DEVELOPED ANY CLEAR GUIDELINES THEMSELVES.

H. HUMAN RIGHTS - MFA EXPECTS GOA TO BECOME INVOLVED IN THIS FIELD EVEN MORE SO THAN IN PAST SINCE
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NEW FOREIGN MINISTER HAS IN PART MADE HIS REPUTATION AS EXPERT ON INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS. AUSTRIANS ARE INTERESTED IN KNOWING WHETHER US PLANS ANY NEW INITIATIVES THIS FIELD AND, IF SO, THEY WOULD LIKE TO CONSULT AT EARLY STAGE.

I. INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM - GOA HAS TAKEN AN INCREASINGLY FIRMER PUBLIC STANCE ON ISSUE; IT WELCOMES

AND IS PREPARED TO SUPPORT FRG INITIATIVE WHICH NOW BEING EXAMINED. GOA REPORTEDLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE COVERAGE EXPANDED BEYOND THAT OF TAKING OF HOSTAGES BUT IS AWARE OF POLITICAL PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED THEREWITH.

J. DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE - GOA FAVORS GRATER ACTION ON DISARMAMENT AND WILL FIND ITSELF HARD PUT NOT TO SUPPORT MOVE TO CONVOKE SPECIAL SESSION ON SUBJECT. AT SAME TIME IT IS AWARE THAT WITHOUT PRESENCE OF MAJOR POWERS, SUCH UNDERTAKING DOOMED TO FAIL.

K. UN BUDGET - GOA FEELS THAT IT CANNOT OPPOSE ADD-ONS IN PRINCIPLE BUT IS PREPARED TO SUPPORT SELECTIVE ACTION AGAINST ADD-ONS.

L. UN RESTRUCTURING - GOA ALSO CONSIDERS RESTRUCTURING NECESSARY UNDERTAKING AND VIEWS IT AS LIKELY TAKING PLACE AT SLOW PACE. IT IS PREPARED, AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE, TO WORK TOWARD RATIONAL REORGANIZATION.

M. EXTERNAL EVALUATION MECHANISM - GOA FAVORS PROPOSAL IN PRINCIPLE BUT WOULD LIKE TO LOOK AT DRAFT PROPOSAL ON ENVISAGED MECHANISM. ASSUMPTION IS THAT FINAL DECISION ON ANY PROJECT WOULD STILL BE "POLITICAL ONE", WITHIN COMPETENCY OF SOME UN COMMITTEE, E.G. 5TH COMMITTEE.

3. BRIEF SUMMARY OF GOA VIEWS ON UNGA ITEMS OF INTEREST TO AUSTRIAN FOLLOWS:

A. REELECTION OF UN SEC GEN - FOR OBVIOUS REASONS
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GOA WOULD EWLCOME REELECTION OF SالدHEIM AND, ACCORDING TO MFA, HIS REELECTION NOW APPEARS ALMOST CERTAIN.

B. VIENNA UN CITY - GOA CONSIDERS ITEM "MOST IMPORTANT" ONE AND WILL BE ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN DECISION FAVORING SHIFT TO VIENNA OF SOME UN UNITS FROM GENEVA AND NEW YORK IN HARMONIOUS ACCORD WITH SWITZERLAND AND US. MFA IS OPTIMISTIC THAT REASONABLE SCENARION CAN BE PUT TOGETHER BY DAVIDSON, WHICH WILL OBTAIN SUPPORT OF GRAT MAJORITY OF UN MEMBERS.

C. KREISKY MARSHALL PLAN PROPOSAL - MFA FEELS THAT IDEA MAY ONCE AGAIN BE PUT FORWARD BY GOA IN ONE FORM OR ANOTHER DURING 31ST UNGA BUT NO SPECIFIC

PROPOSALS OR SUGGESTIONS HAVE BEEN THUS FAR DRAFTED
AT MFA.

D. WEO CONSULTATIONS - GOA WILL URGE DEVELOPMENT
OF WHAT TERMED MORE ADEQUATE CONSULTATION MECHANISM
IN WEO TO HOPEFULLY ALLOW AUSTRIAN INPUT INTO
DEVELOPING WEO CONSENSUS, PARTICULARLY AS REGARDS
EC-9, AT EARLIER STAGE. BUCHANAN

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